

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace paragraph 1 of page 2 with the following:

91 Cross Reference to Related Applications: This application is a continuation-in-part application of Serial No. 09/004,010, filed January 7, 1998, the contents of which are incorporated herein by reference, and further claims the benefit of U.S. provisional application Serial No. 60/039,104 filed February 25, 1997.

Please replace (full) paragraphs 1 and 2 (lines 3-21) of page 22 with the following:

92 By way of further example, the same especially-shaped securement structure may be adapted to a bracing member 100, as shown in FIG. 9, which is configured with two proximal ends 102, 102' for attachment to the first bracing member support (~~no~~ not shown). The securement structures 260, 260' may be generally triangular in shape to maximize ~~later~~ lateral vector forces as described with respect to the single bracing member 36 shown in FIG. 8. Further, the securement structure 262 positioned at the distal end 110 of the bracing member 100 may be a triangularly-shaped hook and loop tab 264, or may be any other appropriate shape.

FIGS. 10 and 11 illustrate the same general principle with respect to the securement structure 60 or 260, 260' located at the proximal end 38 or 102, 102', respectively, of the bracing member 36 or 100, respectively, except that the securement structure 60 or 260, 260' can be modified in shape while still providing a maximization of lateral vector forces acting upon the securement structure 60 or 260, 260'. The securement structure 60 shown in FIG. 10 and the securement structures 260, 260' shown in FIG. 11 are, by way of example only, generally triangulate in shape, but have rounded corners. Other suitable shapes or dimensions may be employed in configuring the securement structures 60, 260 260', and distal securement structures 62, 262, while still providing maximized lateral vector forces to promote lateral force rather than axial

*Q2* force (relative to the long axis of the limb) acting upon the securement structures.

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